

POLICE TRACE STOLEN-TO-ORDER AUTOMOBILE GANG

TERRITORY IS SECURED FOR THIEVES

Chief Nitz of West Hammond Police Makes Discovery

Stolen-to-order automobiles may now be had the same as custom-built or the ordinary kind, according to facts which are coming to light as a result of an investigation now being made by Chief Nitz of the West Hammond police.

The West Hammond police now have six of these cars in their possession, all in first class shape and representing a valuation of about \$15,000. More are expected to turn up as the investigation proceeds.

Word came to the police that a West Hammond man had been offered a handsome Cadillac machine at a ridiculously low price. In fact the sum was so small for the car which was almost new that the prospective purchaser became suspicious.

The police were notified and the two men who had attempted to make the sale were picked up some time later.

The car which they had tried to sell was gone and they denied knowing what had become of it. Attempts at tracing the machine so far have yielded no results but it is thought to have been sold to someone in West Hammond, Hammond or nearby territory.

The police suspecting an organized gang began checking up on machines which had recently appeared in West Hammond. Assistance was also rendered by Hammond police and the result was that four Hudson touring cars, a Cadillac sport model and a Buick roadster were picked up within the last few days. All were found to be stolen cars and had been sold to the latest owners at prices which should have aroused suspicion.

The Buick roadster, good as new, had been run only 1,200 miles and yet the "salesman" parted with it as second-hand for only \$350.

Purchases of these stolen machines have been called to the police station to look over the two men who are being held but so far none have identified themselves as the ones who sold the machines.

Representatives of the Chicago Detective Bureau were in West Hammond yesterday looking over the cars which had been recovered. From their records they were able to identify all of them as stolen and furnished the names of the owners.

The majority of the machines have been stolen within the last month in Chicago.

It is said that the "stolen-to-order" salesman approached a prospect and represented himself to be a free lance second-hand agent. He offers a car or two which generally prove unsatisfactory to the unsuspecting prospect.

The conversation generally ends by the prospect saying something like this: "Well if you could find me a good Buick or Ford at a decent price I might consider it."

The salesman assures his client that he can find just such a car for "there are always fellows buying good machines and then finding they need money more than they do the machine." He explains that he always keeps his eyes open for such boys in distress.

A few days later he calls on his prospective customer with just the car they were talking about. He tells of the poor fellow who had to sell and even produces a bill of sale attested by a notary, some of them Hammond notaries by the way. The deal is quickly closed.

Chief Nitz and his men are hot on the trail of the Cadillac offered by his two prisoners and if it can be located he believes he will have all the evidence necessary to convict them and at the same time bring a confession from them clearing up the thefts of the other machines.

Where Is It To End? Asks Famous Writer

"All the Fences are Down" For Girls, Declares Winifred Black; Dangers Confronting Young Women.

BY WINIFRED BLACK
(Noted Writer on Women's Affairs)
(Written Expressly for The International News Service)

SAN FRANCISCO, CAL., Sept. 14.—Dead, in misery and disgrace. Dead, in shame and humiliation.

Dead, in agony and despite—Olive Thomas in Paris!

Virginia Rappe—in London!

Virginia Rappe—in San Francisco!

Three young, beautiful girls full of life and the joy of living!

And every one of them died in a way that would have made the mother who bore them wish they had strangled in their cradles, if she could have looked ahead and visioned even dimly the horror that came to them!

What does it all mean—where is it all going to end?

This girl who died in San Francisco the other day in hideous agony—has never been connected in any way with any scandalous stories of disgraceful parties before.

She was a quiet, well-behaved, modest girl, they say, intelligent and well enough accustomed to the ways of the world to know what "wild parties" meant.

How did she happen to go to such an orgy and after she got there, when she found out the sort of "party" it was—why didn't she leave the place immediately?

What was a self-respecting, proud, high-hearted girl doing at such a place? Just exactly what hundreds and perhaps even thousands of other girls are doing, day in and day out, and night in and night out, all over this country.

The old-fashioned rules that protected girls who had not sense enough to protect themselves have all been broken.

Ten years ago, the girl who would go to a man's room in a hotel, party or no party, would have thrown away

her good name the instant the fact of her visit was known.

Ten years ago, any woman who stayed for ten minutes in the room with a crowd of drunken men would have been considered no better and no worse than the men.

Ten years ago, women of decent reputation did not frequent the company of men who were known to be shameless and disgusting brutes.

Since the war, all this is changed. All the fences are down, all the rules are "back numbers" and half the girls we meet in the street and see at the theatre and know in the homes of our best friends are subjected day after day to dangers of which their mothers never even dreamed.

All over the world the situation is nothing less than appalling, and in America it is worse than anywhere else.

Poor Virginia Rappe—before we judge her for going to such a place in such company. Let's stand for a little judgment ourselves.

Who was this man Arbuckle—who gave this party, anyhow?

The tales of his sickening orgies have spread from one coast to the other.

Everybody who knows anything about him or his kind at all ought to know what a "party" given by him would mean.

But he is rich, he owns a \$20,000 automobile and has goodness knows how many servants and valets and hangers-on of every description.

Besides, he's a "celebrity," save the mark.

Let's face the truth, fathers and mothers of America—for once.

Your daughter or my daughter would probably not have gone to his party, or if they had gone there, they would have been shocked and disgusted enough to leave the minute they saw what it was. But, why should self-respecting girls have anything to do with such men at all?

We say that you couldn't touch pitch without being defiled.

Today, the motto seems to be—what difference does a little thing like pitch make—among friends?

INDUSTRY OPERATIONS ARE ACTIVE

Buffington and Cudahy Plants Are Working At Capacity

A poll taken yesterday on operations of the industries in the East Chicago-Whiting-Gary district found plants in this region coasting along with a few exceptions.

The Universal Portland Cement company is still working full capacity. The Cudahy Packing company is still holding its own at normal while the U. S. S. Lead Refinery company give a seventy-five per centage operation.

Operations of the Inland Steel company were increased slightly this week. The twenty-eight inch structural mill and the forty-inch blooming mill will resume operations next Monday. It is officially said.

The Chicago Heights hard steel bar mill an Inland Steel Co. subsidiary is expected to be working by next week also. It is officially reported that repairs on the furnace in number 2 plant of the Hubbard Steel Foundry company have been completed and that this furnace is being warmed up that the plant might resume operations next Monday, September 19.

The "Fatty" Arbuckle scandal will be used as an opening wedge by the Lake County W. C. T. U. in a fight for social reform to be launched at their county convention in East Chicago this month.

In the meantime letters are being prepared by Mrs. James Graves, the county president, calling the attention of clergymen to the debauchery of movie actors and the need of censorship at the theaters. The ministers will be asked to make the state of public morals and particularly the "boldness and immodesty of girls" the topic of sermons in the near future.

BLAISE MOVIES
Mrs. Graves attributes the "boldness and immodesty" of the dress of girls and young women to the movies. In a statement to a reporter today she said that the situation was beyond the control of individual mothers and should be taken in hand by their societies, clubs and the churches. The clergy has been negligent in its duty, she said.

"The tremendous educational power of the movies has been deliberately misdirected until it threatens to undermine the morals of the younger generation," said Mrs. Graves. "Vice has been made gorgeous beyond all imagination. Drinking, smoking and gambling by women has been shown until it no longer jars the finer sensibilities of the young men and young women. The growing habit of cigarette smoking by girls is due to the moving pictures. I am convinced. The movies set an example for violation of the prohibition laws by showing drinking scenes."

APPEALS TO WORST
"Eighty-five per cent of the movies appeal to the worst instincts of the people. The drama is founded on indecency. Nothing is sacred to the movies."

"Church people have compromised themselves until they will either have to take a decided stand or lose what grip they have left on the public. Owing to the Arbuckle and Kennedy cases in California it is now officially known that the rumors of the disgraceful dissipation of moving picture actors are true. The life in the places where the movies are made rivals Babylon. It is the most degenerate aspect of modern life. Out of this social cesspool comes the nation's entertainment."

INFLUENCES MORALS
"It has been argued that the theater doesn't influence the morals of the people but only their manners and dress. It is my contention that anything that influences the manners and the dress of the people, and especially the women, has a direct effect for good or bad upon their morals. Manners, dress and morals are affluities."

"I believe in common sense in dress, but I do not believe that a girl without a corset, rolled stockings, short skirt, no brassiere and low cut waist is modestly dressed. Consciously or unconsciously, knowingly or innocently she is dressed to attract the attention of men to her form."

"It has been said that the fashions are set by the demi-monde of Paris and that our slang expressions come from the underworld. Paris is perhaps the origin of the fashions, but the movies are the great advertising medium."

"I firmly believe in a strict censorship of the movies and in the closing of theaters on Sunday. The hue and cry that Sunday is the poor man's day for pleasure is not well founded. Since the eight hour day has become almost universal the working man has eight hours each day for recreation. If he works nights he can go to the matinee."

"The movies can have as great a power for decency as they have for indecency. Many of the photo dramas are worthy of patronage. The weekly news reels and travel pictures have an educational value. But I do not see how any father or mother can deny the need of censorship of the movies for the protection of their children."

DE VALERA NOT ON IRISH DELEGATION
BY DANIEL O'CONNELL
(STAFF CORRESPONDENT, I. N. SERVICE)
DUBLIN, Sept. 14.—Wladimir De Valera will not be a member of the Irish delegation to the peace conference at Inverness, it was announced officially today.

Arthur Griffith, founder of Sinn Fein will head the new delegation that will discuss terms with Premier Lloyd George.

Dail Eireann met here to discuss the latest peace developments and to choose the personnel of the Sinn Fein delegation.

A statement was given out saying the Sinn Fein parliamentarians had approved the following delegation: Arthur Griffith, chairman; Michael Collins, commander-in-chief of the Irish republican army; Robert C. Barton, E. Dugan and Gavan Duffy.

WHERE WAS THE FIRE?
"Tell your story simply and clearly," is one of the first rules for the young reporter to learn. The book "Be a Reporter and Solve Mysteries" makes this the first rule.

To run true to form "Jim" Armstrong and Doc Sharkey were arrested this morning for speeding. They were simply going 35 m.p.h. They were clearly in the wrong. They paid \$11 in the city court this morning. What could be simpler?

BUY BANKRUPT STOCK
Whitezel and Rees have purchased the stock and fixtures of the bankrupt Bilek department store at 3608 Cedar street, Indiana Harbor, valued at \$6,000 and are preparing to place these goods on sale at their Hammond store, 150-152 State street. The stock was bought at such a low figure that the public is assured a great bargain event.

THEFT OF SEDAN
Charlie Crumppacker, 28 Webb street, reports the theft of his mother's Ford sedan which he left in front of the Hammond Hotel on Sibley street. Police officials of surrounding cities have been notified and a determined attempt is being made to locate the car.

RAPID RECOVERY OF INDUSTRY IS PREDICTED

(BY W. H. ATKINS)
(STAFF CORRESPONDENT, I. N. SERVICE)
WASHINGTON, Sept. 14.—Rapid recovery of leading staple commodity lines, together with increases in the values of many products was responsible, say government officials as a clear indication of a trend toward substantial business revival. Reports to the Federal Reserve Board, the Treasury department, the Commerce department and other governmental agencies in close touch with industrial conditions gave unmistakable signs of sudden improvement in many directions.

Among the salient features in this expected revival as pointed out in government officials were:

1. The rise in the price of cotton, a real start away from depression. It is to be sustained by the fact that this year's crop is short and the additional reason is deterioration from boll weevil and drought last month may reduce the government's last estimate.

2. A pronounced jump in the demand for American imports, being the export figures upon a par with those of last spring. This means a much larger volume of shipments than was reported there because since spring prices have steadily declined.

3. Europe is shipping heavier supplies of her exportable surplus to the American markets. It means a further cutting down of Europe's unfunded indebtedness to America, as shipments can only be made in goods.

4. The government, in advance of action by congress, has decided to reduce the credit strain of the railroads and rush their rehabilitation and prepare them for the heavy traffic demands of the coming winter and spring.

The president has directed the sale of the \$386,000 in equipment trust certificates held by the government, or as much as the market will absorb at par, on the proceeds can be used in paying some of the undisputed claims of the carriers.

5. The war finance corporation is getting ready to advance to growers of farm products, hundreds of millions of dollars, to aid in financing domestic farming operations, sales and marketing. The program of the Harding administration for sustaining American agriculture, together with the establishment of credit channels, both in the United States and in the foreigner of a more confident tone in the whole business structure, according to officials who are in touch with the situation.

Revive Sunday Closing
Lake County W. C. T. U. Convention at East Chicago to use Arbuckle Case as Wedge.

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Committees Appointed to Meet With Business Agents And Contractors

BULLETIN
Upon a meeting tonight between representatives of the Carpenters District Council and the Building Trades Employers Association will depend in a large measure the fate of the building industry in Hammond for the balance of this season.

Hammond people await the outcome with much interest for it is expected to decide whether or not the new addition to the high school building will be completed before snow dies and whether or not the students will be forced to endure the present crowded conditions for another school year.

Its outcome also will mean food, clothing, coal and house rent in the home of many a Hammond workman where with a cessation of the building and idle mechanics must come hunger and distress will be the alternative. The latter conditions already prevail in scores of homes and charitable organizations are preparing for what will without doubt be the most trying winter Hammond has faced.

Without the carpenters carrying on their part of construction, all other crafts, however willing to work, must finally drop their tools and from this throng of idle mechanics must come the usual percentage of unfortunate ones who have been caught unprepared financially.

Last night the Carpenters' District Council discussed the subject of the present disaffection of the wage of \$1 an hour which was awarded by Judge Landis. What was reached has not been given out, but O. N. Kiser, secretary of the council, today assured The Times that the council would have a committee in conference with the committee from the employers association tonight.

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LIEBER POINTS TO LAKE COUNTY AS AN EXAMPLE

Conservation Head Says Education Helps Protect Wild Life.

INDIANAPOLIS, Sept. 14.—It is astounding the amount of wild game life found in Lake county, that industrial region of northern Indiana, considering the density of population, declared Richard Lieber, director of conservation, on his return today from an inspection trip and business conference with men of the northern branch of the state warden service.

Mr. Lieber pointed to Lake county as a liberal educational factor in that it teams with industrial life, and yet, three miles from the city of Hammond, the center of the Calumet region, prairie chickens are found, while such game as quail, rabbits and squirrels are abundant. Naturally, the waters of the region abound with aquatic life and that section of Hoosierland is known far for its excellent piscatorial sport, he says.

The fact that Lake county offers unusual inducement for sportsmen by reason of its abundance of small wild life, presents an unique situation, Mr. Lieber pointed out, in that the population is inter-racial and its many residents of foreign birth are not expected to be as well informed on hunting and fishing laws as the native born.

When a year ago state wardens found a population suspicious and disinclined to cooperate for the conservation of wild and aquatic resources, today the wardens, by firm and impartial law enforcement, and because they frequently act as instructors to teach the laws, have brought about a spirit of unity for conservation as a whole.

The people of Lake county are noticeably boosters of their locality, the Indiana conservation head said. Many of these northern Lake county residents are gradually becoming enthusiastic in their support to suppress the game law violators because they realize that the conservation department is sincerely working for their interests, Mr. Lieber said. In the aggregate, they are obedient to the laws because they appreciate that wild life resources possess more than a momentary value, and really are a huge asset, Mr. Lieber declared.

During Harding's campaign for the presidency, Mr. VanFleet was his manager for Indiana. He is an ex-judge of the St. Joseph Circuit court and is Republican chairman of the Thirtieth congressional district.

A CUTTING SCRAPE
Edgar Shoemaker, colored, 146 Plummer ave., is in jail following a cutting scrape in which he carved up Lillie Junior, same address. Lillie suffered six razor cuts on her neck, face and legs. She is not seriously injured.

The couple, it is thought, became involved in a quarrel, which culminated in the carving bee. Shoemaker is charged with felonious assault. Lillie is under the care of Dr. Chidlaw.

FRANKFORT MAN SUCCEEDS H. M. JOHNSON
INDIANAPOLIS, Sept. 14.—Bank Commissioner Charles W. Cline announced today the appointment of Mr. Lowell W. Cox of Frankfort as chief bank examiner in the state bank department. Mr. Cox will have supervision of the Indianapolis district succeeding H. M. Johnson, who resigned to become examiner for the Indianapolis clearing house on October 1. Mr. Cox has had many years of experience in the banking business in Sheridan and Frankfort. He formerly was a state bank examiner. The appointment was approved by Governor McCray.

BUY BANKRUPT STOCK
Whitezel and Rees have purchased the stock and fixtures of the bankrupt Bilek department store at 3608 Cedar street, Indiana Harbor, valued at \$6,000 and are preparing to place these goods on sale at their Hammond store, 150-152 State street. The stock was bought at such a low figure that the public is assured a great bargain event.

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